

of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106^{th} congress, first session

Vol. 145

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1999

No. 137

Senate

The Senate met at 9:01 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear Father, today we focus our attention on a question we need to ask every day: Who gets the glory? Our purpose is to glorify You in all we say and do. And yet so often we grasp the glory for ourselves. Help us to turn attention from ourselves to You and openly acknowledge You as the source of our strength. You have taught us that there is no limit to what we can accomplish when we do give You the glory. May our realization that we could not breathe a breath, think a thought, or give leadership without Your blessing, free us from so often seeking recognition. Make us so secure in Your up-building esteem that we are able to build up others with whom we

We glorify You, gracious God. We consecrate the decisions of this day, and when the Senators come to the end of the day, may they experience that sublime joy of knowing it was You who received the glory. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CONRAD BURNS, a Senator from the State of Montana, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURNS). The Senator from Arizona.

SCHEDULE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume consideration of

the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty, with approximately 6 hours of debate time remaining. As a reminder, the two amendments in order to the treaty must be filed at the desk by 9:45 a.m. today.

By previous consent, at 4:30 p.m. the Senate will resume debate on the conference report to accompany the Agriculture appropriations bill. Following 1 hour of debate, the Senate will proceed to a cloture vote on the conference report. Therefore, the first rollcall vote of the day will occur at approximately 5:30 p.m.

For the information of all Senators, this week will be extremely busy so that action on the CTBT and the Agriculture appropriations conference report can be completed. The Senate will also begin consideration of the campaign finance reform legislation and take up any conference reports available for action. Senators may expect votes throughout the day and into the

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now go into executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 3, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: Resolution to Advise and Consent to the Ratification of treaty document No. 105-28, Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Will the Chair inform the two managers what time is remaining for both sides on the debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Chair advises the Senator from Nevada that the majority has 2 hours 53 minutes; the minority, 3 hours 23 minutes.

Mr. REID. I say to my friends from Arizona and Virginia that we will try to speak now and even out the time.

Mr. President, I give myself such time as I may consume.

We have heard a lot about nuclear testing recently, but no one has experienced nuclear testing as has the State of Nevada. Just a few miles from Las Vegas is the Nevada Test Site. There we have had almost 1,000 tests, some above ground and some below ground. You can travel to the Nevada Test Site now and go and look at these test sites. You can see where the above-ground tests have taken place. You can drive by one place where bleachers are still standing where people-press and others-would come and sit to watch the nuclear tests in the valley below. You can see some of the buildings that still are standing following a nuclear test. You can see large tunnels that are still in existence where scores and scores of tests were set off in the same tunnels. You can go and look at very deep shafts where underground tests were set off.

The State of Nevada understands nuclear testing. At one time, more than 11,000 people were employed in the Nevada desert dealing with nuclear testing. Now, as a result of several administrations making a decision to no longer test nuclear weapons, there are only a little over 2,000 people there. Those 2,000 people are there by virtue of an Executive order saying we have to be ready if tests are deemed necessary in the national interest. So the Nevada Test Site is still there. The people are standing by in case there is a need for the test site to again be used.

The cessation of testing caused the largest percentage reduction of defense-related jobs in any Department of Energy facility. Today, as I indicated,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

